

(57)
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Hq 14th AA Command

APO 322, Frisco.

Bunny Darling;

And still it rains. It has rained for about three days now without letting up at all except for short periods when it just drizzles instead of raining hard. My clothes will never get dry. I have had the clothes out there for about two weeks now waiting for them to get dry enough to take in. It has rained enough so that the ~~eeeh~~ clothes can't dry. This rain brings with it a very paradoxical situation because, with all the rain we have had, we are suffering from a slight water shortage. It seems that the water is so muddy because the streams are swollen that the pumps are having a devil of a time trying to purify it. We do have our lister bags in which the ~~pe~~ water can be sterilized, and we drink out of those. We can use the tap water for showers and for washing and shaving. I still prefer this rain to the heat we would have otherwise.

At work this morning they put me to work. None of the other fellows were in so when they came in with a chart to do I had to do it. Usually, I only do the freehand work, but I did a fairly good job on this. I'll be a draftsman yet. Yes Darling, you shall have a versatile husband. Ask him if you don't think so. I on the other hand am going to have a very lovely and loving wife for whom it will be a distinct pleasure to exercise my versatility. After I finished this job, I finished the story of "The Applegreen Cat", a mystery which I have been reading for diversion. It was no good but I wanted to finish it so I could get started on my new Sinclair novel. I have read two chapters of that and think that I am going to like it very much. I like his style of writing. Shugerman tried to interest me in Sinclair's work while I was at Lansing but I failed to find a book in the library at the time so I just gave it up.

The only other person here in the office this afternoon is the CQ and he just left to go back to the battery area for a few minutes. Everyone here observes the sabbath as good men should. I hope that you don't mind receiving letters from me which are typed instead of written in longhand. Every once in a while I get the urge to just brush up my typing and you are the recipient of the result. The little book I told you about having read the other day, HOW TO WRITE LOVE LETTERS, cautioned the reader NEVER to type love letters. I am taking my chances though and am trusting that you will understand. You will won't you?

The two missing letters have arrived today. The ones I told you I had not received. The first was the one you wrote when you received ~~when~~ ~~you~~ the pictures from John's wife. You think that I have circles under my eyes do you? There really are none to speak of, it is just the way the light shone on my face. I am really quite healthy looking I can assure you Honey. If only I could lose a few pounds I would be in just as good shape as I was in in the States. I have stood up under this tropical weather much better than I had ever dreamed I would. I guess I must adapt to new climates very well. Even though I may adapt to them well I can assure you that I do not like it. I am all for the northern climes. There is no place like the northeastern US.

Your views on the international situation are very interesting but I can't say that I am in wholehearted agreement with them. I find that you belong to the school of thought that advocates cleaning up at home and then proceeding to the national scene. The only trouble with that to my way of thinking is that, doing this, we are announcing our intention of developing ourselves as a nation separate from the others, one whose fate does not concern the others and which is not reliant on other nations. This is not the right way to look at it from my way of thinking. We have got to make a break from this way of thinking because in a world as small as ours has grown in the last few years all nations are mutually interdependent. What ~~effe~~ affects one must affect another. It isn't the case of each neighbor having his own house any more, but one of each one having a separate room in the same house. What is the use of cleaning your own room alone when, if you don't also help your neighbor clean his, he will just track dirt from his room into yours. Of course there

are bound to be some injustices in this plan. It will take a hell of a while for them to even start to iron them out. There are provisions made for changes though and we will have the basis of a plan which we can improve on as time goes on. I believe that this is better than not even making a beginning. You talk about all the things at home that will have to be cleared up. Sure there are a lot of them. I am not denying that. I do say though that we have the fundamental structure, the federal government, which will rectify a lot of these things. We are better off than we would be if the States had never decided to combine at all and each one had chosen to travel its own separate road. The main thing is that we had a framework there which we could utilize to do this cleaning up that is necessary. I think that we are off on the road to cleaning up conditions in the US to a great extent. Great strides were taken during the Roosevelt administration which have set precedents for this. I think that it would be very wise and vital that we should at least lay some kind of foundation for a union of nations which could be utilized to make a better world. With no beginning there can be no end.

You also speak of Russia wanting to own Poland. I am afraid that I cannot agree with you there. It seems to me that the territory which Russia claims is land to which it has as much title as Poland. It is not the ~~the~~ most productive part of Poland by a long shot, and the only people who are voicing loud protests over this are the Poles in London who, to my way of thinking, forfeited all right to rule in Poland by the conditions they helped to perpetuate in that country. Kowalcuk's parents are from the Polish Ukraine and he tells of the conditions which prevailed in that region. It is like a resume of the conditions in Russia which precipitated the revolution there. There was a regular feudal system in effect there which was practically like that existing in the Middle Ages. I can't say that I blame the government now in power there for not wanting to have anything to do with the London government. These Poles have inaugurated a land reform and stand to lose all these gains if they allow that to happen. By trying to best Russia in this matter, and not using our better judgment, we are just driving the Poles into the Russian's arms. I still think that the idea of a world congress of nations is the only ultimate hope ~~of the~~ for the abolition of warfare as a means of settling differences.

I got a letter from Mom today. She told me that another of my uncles has died. He was my Uncle Ralph, the second oldest. My Uncle Alphonse was the oldest. He died about ten or twelve years ago. This leaves five children out of sixteen in my fathers family. Hardly any of them have lived over fifty years. Dad and Ralph were the only ones. This uncle was quite a character too. He was the black sheep of the family. He was very smart though and knew what the devil his sisters were like, they are very grasping people. As a result of his realization of their characters, he refused to leave anything behind, not even insurance. He was a very good hearted fellow though, and I always got along very well with him. I guess that Dad was pretty well broken up about his death.

Excuse the interruption Darling but I have just been talking with Capt Capron about literature concerning this part of the world and he was telling me some of the personal highlights of the life of one of the greatest of the writers about the South Seas, Joseph Conrad. I have read two of his books and like his writing very much.

Mom is worried about my not having received the ~~peaking~~ packages she has sent to me. I told her that I had gotten yours and now she is wondering why hers have not come. I have some lobster and canned chicken coming. I don't think that you would be very much interested in the lobster though.

We have just been talking about playing cribbage. I have not played the game since I left the States. I like the game very much. Remember how we used to play it at home. I think that I am a much better player at that than I am at bridge. Of course when I get back you can teach me how to bid and maybe I will be able to play without making the boners I do now. Still and all, Pop plays without much system and does a very good job of it. Maybe it would be better if I just tried the same thing.

I am glad to hear that you had a nice birthday dinner and that the weather was fairly nice. I wish I had been there to help you celebrate though. Then it really would have been nice. You made quite a haul on your birthday didn't you? The bond and the chest. You can use the chest to store away the present I gave you until we are on our honeymoon. It should look very sweet on you Darling. But then anything would, you would make it so.

It's too bad you couldn't go swimming the last Saturday you were at the lake. War is certainly hell isn't it Sweet? Just what excuse did you give little Sally Thompson for not being able to go in swimming. Alas, she'll learn. Why didn't you go in anyway just to humor her. I hope this thing does not come between us on our vacation. It had better not because Maurice will ride regardless. I'm sorry darling, I'm a bad boy.

Now what makes you so sure that we will never be able to build a house as large as the one we want? Of course we might look up some old houses that could be remodeled to suit our needs, but we may be able to ~~get-a-house-to~~ build a house such as we want. You can never tell. There is one good thing in your saying this though. It shows that you are not expecting me to become a millionaire. I am not going to you know. I have no desire to. It would take too much time and too much energy for me. I am going to be much too busy enjoying myself to worry about that. I would hate to be the kind of husband who was too busy with my work to pay any attention to my love life. In my case the work will be the subordinate thing.

I feel very lazy today. I guess it is the weather but I feel just like sleeping. I have been sleeping well the past few nights. The rain is responsible for that. The night I went on that beer bust I dreamed all night though. I dreamed that I was in the middle of a large field and that there were planes all over the field and in the air. A plane would take off and would no sooner get into the air than it would burst into flames and crash. I would run as ~~close~~ close to it as I dares go with the flames and would try to see if the pilot got out. Sometimes he would and other times he wouldn't but I never did anything to help him in any case. I just seemed to be curious as to whether he would get out or not. There were all types of airplanes there and about twenty of them crashed at least. It was the weirdest dream I have had in a long time and must have some deep meaning which I, not being a student of Freud, cannot divine. Maybe you have some ideas.

It is time for me to go now. I have to get down to the mess hall to get some of the steak which is on the menu tonight. I hope that it is as good as the last we had. The piece I got was well cooked and, although I generally like mine rare, I enjoyed it very much.

In parting I want to tell you again that you are the girl I love more than I could ever love any other and that I miss you so that my every thought is of the day when I will be back to you. Darling, no matter how I say it, I just can't tell you how very much I do miss you and how much I love you. It will be a very different matter when I am back with you so I can back my words up with illustrations. One illustration is worth a million words, and never will this be truer than in our case Sweetheart. Goodbye now. Here is a big hug and kiss to show you how much

I love you.

Freddie